

ASSIGNMENT

NEWS



NOVEMBER 2024

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GLIDING EXPERIENCE

From Karen Benson

Have you ever wondered what it's like to soar in the sky like a bird, well I have to admit it wasn't high on my bucket list, but after my first flight in a glider I realised what I had been missing!

On Saturday 21st September, the Essex & Hertfordshire Gliding Club held their Open Day at Wormingford Airfield and as it was so local I thought I would go and see why people took to the sky in a glider. My first port of call was the simulator, which I had meant to try at the Assington Fete as I thought that it would give me an insight into my flight. Luckily, I am pretty agile as I squeezed myself into the cockpit and the girl explained what the various dials meant and then set up the screen in front of me. First of all, I couldn't remember



whether you pulled the rudder back to climb or pushed it forward and therefore managed a few spins, which seemed very realistic and then a complete nosedive and managed to crash twice - I hoped this wasn't an omen for my flight! Anyway, after making a real hash of the simulator, I looked forward to the real thing and hoped that the glider trip would be safer.

David Wilde, who lives in Assington, was my pilot and it was time to put on my parachute, where I was given full instructions on how to activate it - I was told that so far nobody had reason to use one, but then there is always a first time!! I



clambered into the cockpit and after being strapped in tightly and with my heart thumping like it was going to burst, we set off at high speed, bumping down the grass runway whilst being pulled up by a giant winch. I was amazed how hard you were pressed back into the seat, but finally the

winch wire was released and there we were soaring up in the sky, just like a bird.

Oh my goodness, what a wonderful perspective of the beautiful countryside we live in; ploughed fields, stubble fields and a huge patchwork of all colours and all within a peaceful little cockpit as we floated quietly up in the sky. Although the morning wasn't that clear, David pointed out various landmarks and on a clear day one can sometimes see Harwich and of course, soar and as the thermals. All too soon it was time to return to base and as we descended and smoothly landed, I was on a real high; what an amazing experience that was.

Unfortunately, the Glider club is losing its home after 2026 and is desperately looking for another venue where they can operate from. It will be such a shame if they have to disband, since the members were so friendly and made it such a memorable morning of flying, refreshments and even a lady who had knitted some lovely toys so I was able to buy my little grandson a birthday present. Thank you to all concerned, especially David Wilde, who persuaded me to try gliding - I feel I could be hooked!!



DANCE CLUB

Tuesdays 10:45am-11:45am

Nayland Village Hall,
Church Lane, CO6 4JH
£5 per class

Love to dance?

Come along and give it a go!

New earlier time: 10.45am – 11.45am
FIRST CLASS FREE!

Fun easy dance routines - from a Foxtrot line dance & a Waltz around the hall to a cheeky Cha ChaCha and a fun Charleston! No partner needed & just £5 a class. a low impact dance workout class for adults who love to dance!

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ASSINGTON REMEMBERS

In November we pay tribute to the many young men of Assington who gave their lives, or whose lives were changed irrevocably by the two wars of the twentieth century - the larger numbers in the 1914-1918 WWI, and the one in WWII. Here I have attempted to provide a few more details of the person who is remembered for his part in WWII, and whose memorial is set into the wall of the church:



In the 2023 November Edition of the Assington News, the following excerpt from a Parish magazine of May 1943 was published:

THE PARISH MAGAZINE May 1943 "ASSINGTON"

My first duty this month is to extend to Mrs Harry Smith and her family our profoundest sympathy in this time of trial. As a parish we are justly proud that her son, Leslie took part in what was the greatest raid of this war, and by doing so represented us in the tremendous struggle against evil things. Whatever maybe be the ultimate news about Leslie, we pray that God Himself will grant the needed courage and strength.

This leads me to say that, the forth-coming "wings for Victory" week in Assington (May 8th - 15th) with its challenge of £2000 for the target, has a special interest for all in this parish. We have now a personal account to settle, and we must see to it that Leslie's fellow-crews and pilots shall not lack the very best machines to carry on the job he was forced to leave in their hands....."

Although sadly, very little information is readily available to "flesh out" the story, the following details have been pulled together.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission holds the following record:

**SERGEANT
LESLIE CHARLES SMITH**

Service Number: 1271374

Regiment

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve
460 (R.A.A.F.) Sqdn.

Date of Death

Died 17 April 1943 Age 22 years old

**Buried or commemorated at
DURNBACH WAR CEMETERY**

9. F. 22. Germany

Country of Service United Kingdom

Additional Info

Son of Harry and Edith Ann Smith, of Assington, Essex.

Personal Inscription

**"UNTIL THE DAY BREAK, AND THE
SHADOWS FLEE AWAY"**

The history of No.460 Squadron is interesting, as it places Flight Sergeant Leslie Charles Smith of Assington in an active role at the forefront of the battle for freedom for his country, and his village:

"No. 460 Squadron RAAF was formed from 'C' Flight of No. 458 Squadron RAAF at RAF Molesworth, Huntingdonshire on 15 November 1941, as a bomber squadron equipped with Wellington Mk.IV aircraft.

Originally part of No. 8 Group RAF, Bomber Command, the squadron moved to RAF Brighton, Yorkshire and joined No. 1 Group RAF. The squadron made its first raid, against the German city of Emden, on 12 March 1942. The following night, five crews from the squadron participated in a raid on harbour facilities around Dunkirk, during which the squadron suffered its first losses of the war when one Wellington was shot down. A six-week "apprenticeship" period followed until the end of April 1942, during which the squadron was assigned mainly to attack less heavily defended targets on the French Channel coast; nevertheless, the squadron also undertook several attacks against targets in Germany during this time.

The squadron's first three months of operations saw it carry out 34 raids. For each raid, at least two aircraft were contributed, with some raids seeing as many as 10 aircraft taking part; a 30 May 1942 raid on Cologne saw 18 aircraft from No. 460 Squadron assigned. A total of six crews were lost during these raids.

Losses between June and August 1942 amounted to 20 aircraft, and at the end of the period the squadron began to convert to Halifax Mk.IIs, but in October the squadron was re-equipped with Lancaster Mk. I and III.



As we know, it was at this juncture, during April 1943, that Leslie was killed in action over Germany.

.....The following May, No. 460 Squadron relocated to RAF Binbrook, Lincolnshire, from where it participated in the strategic bombing of Germany.

In late 1943 and early 1944, the squadron flew sorties in the Battle of Berlin. During the spring and summer of 1944, the squadron flew many missions in support of the D-Day landings. Its final raid was an attack on Adolf Hitler's mountain retreat of Berchtesgaden on Anzac Day, 1945.

In May, No. 460 Squadron joined Operation Manna, the transportation of relief supplies to starving Dutch civilians. The squadron moved to RAF East Kirkby, Lincolnshire, in preparation for re-location to the Pacific theatre, as part of a proposed Commonwealth strategic air force known as Tiger Force, for the invasion of Japan. The move became unnecessary following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and No. 460 Squadron disbanded on 10 October 1945.

The squadron flew the most sorties of any Australian bomber squadron and dropped more bomb tonnage than any squadron in the whole of Bomber Command—24,856 tons, which it dropped over 6,262 sorties. In doing that it lost 188 aircraft and suffered 1,018 combat deaths (589 of whom were Australian). This was the most of any Australian squadron during the war, with No. 460 Squadron effectively wiped out five times over its existence. RAF Bomber Command represented only two percent of total Australian enlistments during World War II, but accounted for almost 20 percent of personnel killed in action. Total Bomber Command losses were 55,573 for all nationalities.



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Leavenheath Village Hall Cinema

is showing

HIDDEN FIGURES
SATURDAY 2nd NOVEMBER

Drama PG – Based on a True Story

Starring Taraji Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monae

Running time 2hr 7 mins with 20 mins interval

Arrive 7.00pm. Film starts 7.30pm

Tickets £4.00 per Adult & £2.50 for under 12's

You can pay by cash or card on the door

Book your tickets online at www.leavenheathvillage.com
or telephone Marion on 01206 263301

Refreshments, wine, beer, soft drinks, coffee, tea will be available
before the film and also during the interval along with ice creams.
Proceeds towards LVH Capital Project Fund (Charity no 262816)

Unfortunately this will be the last Leavenheath film night. Marion Jones, Lesley Collin and Ken Fuller ran the cinema after its inception in 2009. When Lesley moved out of the village in 2019 and Ken's health deteriorated and was no longer able to help, Marion continued to run the cinema aided by some volunteers. So after 15 years she has decided to step down. She would like to take this opportunity, to thank everybody who came along to the cinema over the years. As a thank you, all drinks on the 2nd November will be free.

Unfortunately no-one in the village has come forward to take over the running of the cinema. So unless someone does, then this will be the last film to be shown. If someone is interested in running the 'film' night please contact Marion or someone on the Village Hall Committee.

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such a friendly
group.

We all love
meeting together!

Twice a month on Thursdays in termtime 9.30-11.00 am
in the Village Hall at £3 per family

Here are the dates till the end of 2024
14 & 28 November, 12 December

Revd Tricia Box 07747124592

ShantyFolk



You can catch ***ShantyFolk*** at
their performance at

Assington Village Hall

on

Saturday 23rd November

at

7.30 pm

doors open at 7pm

Tickets: £10 (£5 under-16yrs)

Tickets from:

Assington Farm Shop (cash only)

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BOXFORD & DISTRICT BOWLS CLUB

Towards the end of the outdoor bowling season, the Club had 3 brilliant results in local competitions.

Durham Cup – Our Federation Team had a resounding win against Stoke-by-Clare in the Final of the Durham Cup Trophy. This competition is played against other clubs in the North Essex County Federation Club on a knock-out basis. Below is the team who played in the Final but congratulations to everyone who was involved in this competition during the season.



Sudbury Triples Millennium Cup – The competition's finalists (once again) were Boxford – the Blue Team versus the Green Team. They were finalists against each other 2 years ago, when the Green Team won. However this time, after a very hard fought few hours, it was the Blue Team who came out as victors – by 2 points, so it was a very close match. It is highly unusual for a Bowls Club to have 2 teams in any competition, let alone both teams getting to the Finals. Well done to all the Green Team and commiserations to the Blue Team.



The Black Hen Trophy – every year there is a competition between Boxford and Hadleigh for this trophy. A friendly match but very competitive as both teams are keen to win this historic trophy. And this year Boxford won the trophy back. Well done team!



In the next newsletter I will be congratulating the winners in the Club's Finals Day held in September. So watch out for some great photos of our champions!

ASSINGTON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

Bill Milner (rainfall)

and Bob Cowlin (temperatures)

HISTORY annual rainfall:

2016	599.5	2017	571
2018	559	2019	597
2020	636	2021	582.3
2022	419	2023	662

2020	mm	max	min
AUG	109	32°C	4°C
SEP	25.5	27°C	5°C
OCT	110	14°C	2°C
NOV	33	14°C	-4°C
DEC	102.5	10°C	-5°C

2021	mm	max	min
JAN	89	10°C	-5.5°C
FEB	34	14°C	-7°C
MAR	26	20°C	-3°C
APR	1	15°C	-5°C
MAY	78.1	25°C	-2.5°C
JUNE	55.2	30°C	+3°C
JULY	72	28°C	7°C
AUG	29	24°C	5°C
SEP	28.5	27°C	3°C
OCT	74.5	18°C	1°C
NOV	27	13°C	-3°C
DEC	68	12°C	-6°C

2022	mm	max	min
JAN	7	12°C	-6.5°C
FEB	46	13°C	-4°C
MAR	29	18°C	-2°C
APR	9.5	22°C	-6°C
MAY	37	25°C	0°C
JUNE	33.5	30°C	2°C
JULY	5	36.5°C	6°C
AUG	11.5	32°C	7°C
SEPT	25	25°C	1°C
OCT	63	18°C	0°C
NOV	107.5	14°C	-2°C
DEC	45	10°C	-9.5°C

2023	mm	max	min
JAN	41	10°C	-7.5°C
FEB	3	14°C	-7°C
MAR	78	15°C	-6.5°C
APRIL	65	18°C	-2°C
MAY	19	22°C	1°C
JUNE	15.5	30.5°C	6°C
JULY	72.5	28°C	8°C
AUG	65	29°C	4°C
SEP	41.5	30.5°C	5°C
OCT	137	23°C	-2 °C
NOV	61.5	11°C	-7°C
DEC	63	11°C	-3°C

2024	mm	max	min
JAN	47	9°C	-7°C
FEB	95	9°C	-1°C
MAR	38	18°C	-4°C
APR	49	18.5°C	-3°C
MAY	83.5	25°C	3°C
JUNE	17.5	28°C	2°C
JULY	84.5	30°C	4°C
AUG	17.01	30.5°C	5°C
SEP	66	26.5°C	-0.5°C

VILLAGE NEWS

POPPY APPEAL VLLAGE COLLECTION

Dear Village

As the Autumn days pass, we start to think about what this time of year means to many of us, old and young.



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

On the 25th October the Royal British Legion launched its Poppy Appeal, and with the help of some very kind people we will be coming round with the Poppy Boxes in order to raise funds for all those who have been involved in wars, past and present, who now need our help.

It is because of our Forces that we are not having to run from drones, or having to rush to find shelter, and to be able to sleep peacefully in our beds at night.

Please support our fund raising, the monies raised are sadly very much needed.

Best Wishes, Louisa Symons, 'Centuries'



On Remembrance Sunday I shall be parading the Union Standard through the village to the church with hopefully a special guest escorting me. This person has a very special family story to tell. All I can say is Namaste!

The Parade will commence at Rose Green at 9.30am, on Sunday, 10th November, ending at the church for the 10.30am Service of Remembrance.

David Wiles

ASSINGTON ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

We are keen to build a waiting list of interested residents who may in the future be looking to take on an allotment. To this end please can you contact Jenny on 07503 219950

Also there is a bench alongside the communal apple tree in the perimeter of the allotment garden. Over time surplus produce from the allotments will be placed at or near the bench and free to anybody wishing to make use of it.

WELL DONE AND HUGE THANKS:

To the Grafting Graveyard Gang,

the self-organised group of local residents who gave their time and great effort to rake up the grass after the final cut (or Strim, as it turned out to have to be) of the year, for the entire churchyard.

It was no mean effort: this year the grass has grown far too quickly for us to be able to keep up with it, and although it looked very pretty in May-time, by Autumn it was looking well-past its best. We are most grateful to the team of any age between approximately 40 and 80-year old - but mainly at the "top end" of that spectrum, who worked so hard, to tidy up our local amenity. I'm sure there have been times when almost all of us have felt some solace there, in the (now, once again) beautiful, peaceful surroundings.



(It may be difficult to make out this ?Kestrel, perching on a small gravestone, demonstrating the wonderful camouflage creatures have, to help them to merge into their natural surroundings. This bird, it transpired, was either injured or just unwell, - or I doubt that I would have been able to take the photograph).

We are also most grateful for the most generous donation and organisation of this final cut, by a local resident. How lucky we are to live in such a wonderful place as Assington, where such overwhelming kindness and generosity abounds.

JULES

Desperately sorry that our treasured village florist has closed her doors in the village: she will be sadly missed by a very many people. We have been extremely privileged to have such a wonderful facility in a small village like Assington; the excitement and joy felt by those of us who have been the recipient of a wonderful flower arrangement will be remembered with pleasure.

We send our love and very best wishes and understanding to Jules as she leaves Assington's Barn complex.

NATIONAL GRID WORK

County Councillor Finch has received this notification relating to the Bramford to Twinsted Line Reinforcement project:

Following on from the Secretary of State's decision to approve our development consent order application for the Bramford to Twinsted Reinforcement last month, our appointed contractor (Balfour Beatty) will begin site familiarisation activity next week. As a result of this, residents may notice members of the contractor team out on-site across the project area.

These initial visits will take the form of walkover surveys, with the contractors due to visit key locations along the project route. Any appropriate permissions have been obtained in advance. This work is in addition to other pre-construction surveys already taking place, ahead of the planned start of major construction activity in the first half of 2025.

We will share more information on our approach to construction works in the coming months.

THE RETURN OF THE DOVE!



It was a lovely sunny afternoon on Saturday 5 October and I had not long started out on a walk with our dog Mabel in The Thicks when the call on my mobile phone arrived. The great thing about 'Caller ID' is that I could see it was from David Wiles and when I answered all he said was, "You will not believe what I've found!"... Of course, I had no idea but from the tone of his voice I could tell this was really good news. You will already know from the title of this article exactly what David had found but at that moment it was so unexpected and so wonderful. The stone dove that had gone missing from 'The Renewal of Life' sculpture in our church almost a year ago had been found!

David explained how he and Karen were cleaning up at the church and while round the back of the building, David had spotted what turned out to be the head of the stone dove poking out of the water in the rainwater tank. We talked at length about 'the what's', 'the how's and 'the why's and that there would need to be some work but that all-in-all the sculpture would soon be complete again.

After taking in the news, Mabel and I completed our once-round-The-Thicks and started our way home. I met a number of other Assington people on our walk and the next surprise was just how delighted they were to hear that the dove had been found! By coincidence it was a 'mobile library' Saturday so that helped spread the good news. It was lovely to be reminded how important Dick Heseltine's sculpture is to people and that it would once more be completed when the dove is placed back in the stone hands rising from the bow of Noah's ark.

How had the dove found its way into the tank? Who put it there? How long had the dove been there? Was this some sort of performance art with the dove reenacting the earlier part of the Noah's flood story before it launches out of Noah's hands?(.....Probably Not). By the amount of black slime coating the body of the dove, it was clear the dove had been there a long time and we guess that the water level in the tank had dropped just enough for the head to become visible but it's a lot of guess-work.

We will probably never know the story of what happened to it over the previous 11 months but the dove is back. There is a small amount of damage that will need to be attended to but it is drying out and returning to its original colour.

Dick titled his sculpture 'The Renewal of Life' and it's apt that its 'life' will be renewed in time for our Remembrance Sunday Service this year.

Simon

.....AND CHRISTMAS IS NOT TOO

FAR AWAY.....

The Assington Seniors Christmas lunch will be on **Thursday 19th December at The Shoulder of Mutton**. Please watch out for booking information and menu in the next edition.

ASSINGTON ADVENT WINDOWS

Once again this year we invite you all to participate in the Assington Advent Windows displays:



last year we had some wonderful Christmas-themed pictures, with the date during Advent when that particular window was "unveiled" and lit up for the rest of the Street to see. The Trail was published, a map of The Street, with the dates positioned at the address of the house in question, so that as darkness fell and the windows were lit up, we could follow the trail and spot the advent window-pictures.

See the poster below: Please contact Anna on Facebook or email her on annacclayton@hotmail.co.uk to let her know that you would like to be involved, and get that coloured tissue paper and glue out !



THINGS TO DO



ShantyFolk

An evening of shanties and songs of the sea
Assington Village Hall
Saturday 23rd November
7.30pm (Doors 7.00pm)

Refreshments: alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks available by donation

Tickets: £10 (£5 under-16)
Available from Assington Farm Shop (cash only)
Or - email shantysuffolk@gmail.com
Tel: 07811-716565 / 07989-619364

(All proceeds to St Edmund's church tower project)



Fungus Foray

Please join our Fungus Foray
at Tiger Hill, Assington

on Sunday 3 November, at 2pm

on the Wormingford Road, towards Arger Fen. The
entrance is among trees, between Moors Farm and the
Water-splash - postcode CO8 5BW.

PLEASE CAR SHARE.

All ages welcome. No charge.

Please don't bring excitable dogs.

Tuesday 26th November
join us for the 'Last Tuesday'

 **Coffee and Chat** 

in the Village Hall
at 10am

an opportunity for everyone in the
village to meet up.

Nayland with Wissington Community Council's

BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

NOVEMBER 5TH

NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL

Limited parking in village - Please walk if you can
Disabled parking only at Village Hall CO6 4JH

Adults £6 - Children £2 - TICKETS IN ADVANCE ONLY
from www.naylandevents.org or Mill Street Deli & Forget Me Not Stores

★ HOT DOGS ★ SOFT DRINKS ★ MULLED WINE ★
BEER ★ FISH & CHIPS ★ ICE CREAM ★ CHILDREN'S TREATS

available from 6.15pm
Display by Firework Crazy
STARTS 7pm

GUY & BONFIRE after Fireworks

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**JOIN US FOR A
CANDLE-LIT PERFORMANCE OF
CHARLES DICKENS'
A
CHRISTMAS CAROL**

performed by Anthony Roberts
IN ASSINGTON CHURCH

refreshments available

**Wednesday 11th December
at 7pm**

£8 (£4 for under 16)

Tickets: Assington Farm Shop (cash only)
Skimbles, The Street (cash or card)
or text 07989-619364
or on the door

Scanned image by Philip V Allingham. Image courtesy of Toronto bibliophile and Dickens collector Dan Gallinescu.



Assington Church Christingle Service

Sunday 1st December
at 10.30am

*Families, do come early at 10am
to help decorate the tree!*



Everybody Welcome



St Mary's Church, Bures

for babes and little ones
and their parents/carers

coffee/tea and lots of play followed by
15 mins of fun, bible story & songs
first thursday of month starting at 8.45am

**Thursday 7th November and
Thursday 5th December at 8.45am**



To view The Assington News in
colour go to:
**[http://assington.onesuffolk.net/
assington-news/](http://assington.onesuffolk.net/assington-news/)**



Hadleigh Choral Society

Hadleigh Choral Society's autumn concert will feature Bach Christmas Oratorio (parts 1 & 2) and Handel's Coronation Anthems (The King Shall Rejoice and Zadok the Priest). We'll be joined by the Colchester Symphony Orchestra and professional soloists, with authentic period instruments to really kick things up a notch! The concert will take place **Saturday 23rd November at 7:30 pm at St Mary's Church in Hadleigh**. Tickets are **£18** or free for those in full time education, and are available online, at The Idler bookshop in Hadleigh, or through choir members. For more information visit www.hadleighchoralsociety.org.uk.

HARVEST

The harvest weekend is always a busy one: on the Friday evening its the Harvest Supper: a traditional village celebration of food and drink, long communal tables where we meet up and chat to friends old and new. It was lovely to see so many local residents who were prepared to forego the usual Friday evening entertainment for a good old-fashioned evening, and it was made even more special to welcome some new faces and families who hadn't previously ventured to join us on this occasion.

We think it's OK once a year to go back in time, and celebrate this wonderful time of year in (more or less) the same way that Assingtonians have done in previous generations.

.....Well, that is our excuse for providing a little home-grown entertainment:

- well-loved songs from Cecily and Simon,



- a couple of sea shanties from Ian,
- a poem pretty-much "off the cuff" from John (how does he do it??)



- an Anagrams Quiz of vegetables, which just goes to show that we ain't got any country bumpkins in Assington, as loads of contestants got all 30 correct!
- and of course, rounding off with a couple of songs and "We Plough The Fields" from three tables of community singers!

Thanks once again to Linda Britcher, who organised the usual suspects of friends to produce a wonderful Harvest Supper, and to John for arranging the 'drinks package'.

A total of £571.47 was raised from the sale of tickets for the event and from donations for drinks. All proceeds are to go towards the Tower Project, to provide a WC and kitchen facility in the base of the church tower. Well done all!

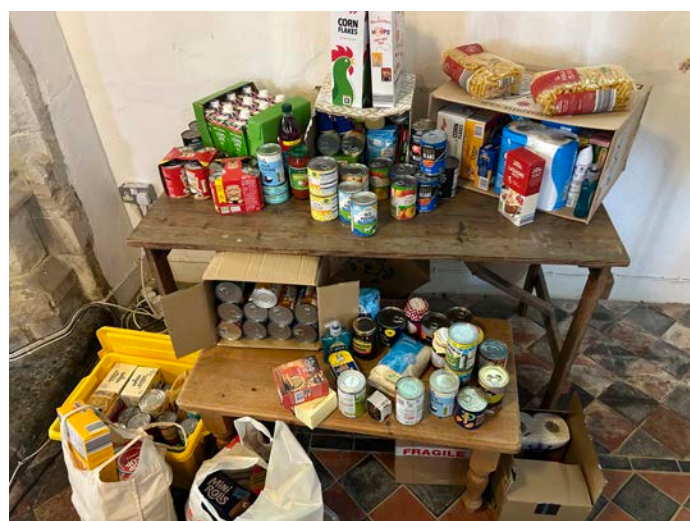


On the Saturday, a small band of people dragged huge quantities of floral decorative material up the Church path, to spend several hours decorating the church for the Sunday Harvest Service. Thanks to the wonderful Siew Taylor for her



fabulous dahlias which she donated, and also to the village master baker for the wonderful Harvest Wheat Sheaf Loaf.

On Sunday, all the food donations which had been generously given into the baskets kindly provided by Maxine in the Farm shop, or which had been brought along to the Harvest Supper or to the actual church itself for the service was displayed in our annual tribute to give thanks for what we have, and to help those who are less fortunate than ourselves.



Once again, thanks to all those who gave so generously.

The food collection is being delivered to the Sudbury Storehouse.

Thank you to those who attended the Service on Sunday, to "Raise the Song of Harvest Home" in our beautiful village church.



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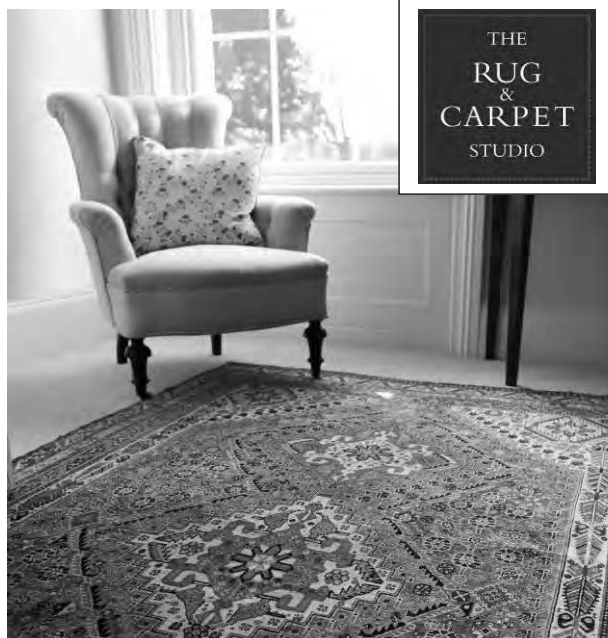
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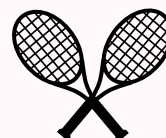
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PARISH CHURCH NEWS



<https://assingtonchurch.org.uk>



Letter from the Rev Mary Cantacuzene

Dear Friends

This time of year has become known as the Season of Remembrance. All Saints' Day followed by All Souls' Day when we have a service in Bures to remember loved ones who have died. Then a day of national commemoration: Remembrance Sunday, when we come together to honour those who have died in conflict. It's in many ways a sad time, and I hope you will forgive my tactlessness (or poor taste!) in raising the whole subject of death, something we usually prefer not to think about.

I have attended a couple of very moving and beautiful family funerals recently, and have been so grateful to be able to just sit quietly in a pew and remember the life of a relation, and well... yes, cry.

As a church minister I feel very privileged to be able to conduct funerals and to offer pastoral care and a sense of hope to those who are mourning. Jesus Christ's teaching about Heaven is such an important aspect of the Christian faith. Apparently even secular, humanistic funeral celebrants are often asked to include the Lord's Prayer and a couple of hymns!

Nowadays you can opt for a "no-frills cremation" when the elderly are encouraged to sign up for a 'low-cost' non-funeral, not wanting 'to be a burden' and not 'wanting any fuss'. But 'a fuss' is exactly what we need when our loved one dies. Planning a service and gathering to pay tribute is a time-honoured way of helping us to grieve well. We should remember that funerals are really for those of us who are left behind, an opportunity for us to both reminisce and mourn.

In my ministry to people who are bereaved I find what's needed most is a proper funeral ceremony, a chance to feel both sad and hopeful, surrounded by family and friends. We are here to help with planning, and to be a listening ear to anyone trying to come to terms with their loss.

With love in Him, **Mary**

Assington Church TOWER PROJECT



QRCode

If you would like to make a **donation** towards the **Tower Project**
Grateful thanks



Want to be part of something new?

Think church might be good for your family but not sure traditional services are for you?
9:15-10:00 am

First and third Sundays of the month
St Mary's Bures
Crafts, Lego, pastries and coffee as we learn about Jesus, sing and pray together.



NOVEMBER 2024 SERVICES IN ASSINGTON

and the Benefice



everyone welcome!

ASSINGTON: 3rd NOVEMBER@10.30am Holy Communion

ASSINGTON: 10th NOVEMBER@10.30am



JOIN WITH US IN OUR MOVING ASSINGTON REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

 or join the lead-up parade commencing at Rose Green at 9.30am, and progressing along The Street.

ASSINGTON: 17th NOVEMBER@10.30am Morning Worship

Elsewhere in the Benefice

24th NOV @ 10.30am Bures Morning Worship

@ 10.30am Lt Cornard: Holy Communion

THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR VISITORS ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS,

and at other times by arrangement with key holders.

Vicar: Daniel Whiffin 01787 228292

email: vicar@parishchurch.co.uk

Associate Priest: Rev Simon White 07572 418555

Reader: Dr John Symons 211534

Churchwarden: Bronwen Stacey 210354

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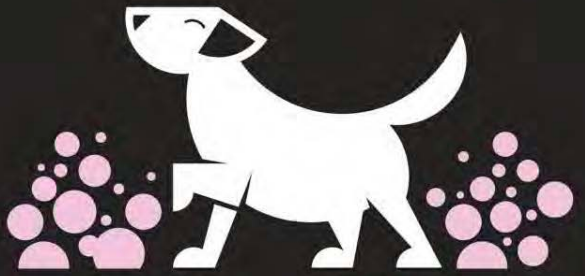
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ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Matters of Interest discussed during a meeting held at Assington Village Hall on Monday 30 September 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Simon Thorogood Andrew Hill, Bronwen Stacey, Helen Wallace and David Wiles.

In attendance: DCllr Lee Parker, CCllr James Finch, Christine Hargan (Clerk) and 16 members of the public. The Chair welcomed two members of the Police Force and also BDC Communities officer

Apologies for absence: Councillors Jordan and Howcroft
■ County and District Councillor reports and **public forum**
Suffolk County Council Report Highlights:

- The Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement has been ongoing since 2009, The Secretary of State has approved the application in principle subject to approval by Suffolk County Council Highways. The County Council have objected to the plans from the inception through to the approval, no detailed plans appear to be in place.

- Some local residents have received legal papers regarding compulsory acquisition of their land, the letter is worded ambiguously and recipients have interpreted it in various ways. Whilst a purchase of land by National Grid cannot be stopped it can be mitigated. Residents have been advised to appoint a local land agent. Cllrs Thorogood and Finch can advise privately of specialist companies. Full costs can be claimed from National Grid.

- There is no firm date for commencement of construction due to the requirement of SCC to agree the plans which include construction of a haul road along the length of the line.

- Ofstead have inspected children's services, and noted an improvement to an already outstanding report, inspectors concluded that children's safeguarding is strong and their experience of the care system in Suffolk remains the CC's priority.

- A serious fire at the recycling centre in Great Blakenham was caused by batteries. Residents are asked to recycle batteries and NOT dispose of them in black bins.

- Relaunch of the purchasing group Solar Together which provides cheaper access to solar panels and may be available for listed buildings. Further details via [Suffolk.gov.uk/news](https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/news)

- Cllr Finch appealed for additional foster parents to help local youngsters. Further information can be acquired from Suffolk County Council.

- **Road signage** when utilities undertake essential maintenance and divert traffic they should also be accountable for removing signs. SCC fine companies for leaving signs once the work is completed and is considering an increase of fines to the companies.

- Residents in the Rose Green area are deeply concerned with speeding motorists to the point that some feel it is too dangerous to use the road to walk especially with children and prams. CCllr Finch will gain advice from highways to find a solution.

Babergh District Council report: Cllr Parker reported that:

- The current regime of refuse collection which has been in place for 20 years is changing in April, a simpler recycling scheme will be introduced with better recycling, a food caddy and an additional blue bin and will be able to recycle glass. Cllrs mooted that parish charities financially benefit from glass recycling.

- CIL continues the good work £800,000 distributed in the recent round of grants.

- Devolution in Suffolk has been rejected for the time being,

- Urgent government action has been requested to end the lack of council housing

- Locality budget is available

Public forum

Suffolk Police were welcomed. The Community Speed Watch group expressed their disappointment regarding lack of Police support and reported a number of problems including motorcycles racing through the village, various types of vehicles travelling at excessive speed and cars with loud exhausts. The Community Speed Watch having worked voluntarily to assist the Police for 4 years, had received a letter during the summer following a complaint from a member

of the public. The letter criticised their operation which had been approved by the Police force.

The officer explained that there are three teams in the local Police area, Cameras, Traffic and Community Policing. Within the teams only some officers are trained in speed monitoring. There are three cameras between 4 people, and the teams require more intelligence to establish where and when speeding happens so that they can direct resources to manage the problem.

Whilst it is appreciated that data is sent to the Control Centre, when it is forwarded to the individual teams it is done via a third party and contact details of the originator have been removed. The Community Policing Team need an email ideally to notify dates of offences, locations, incident times, make and model of the car to enable the team to review ANPR details, a marker can then be placed on vehicles. The process will take a month or more due to operational issues and prioritising workload.

Residents can report minor traffic offences which are a nuisance including all the things reported by Cllr Wiles, the identity of the reporter will not be disclosed therefore members of the public should be confident that there will be no recriminations when reporting offences, however the reports should be as detailed as possible and include make, model of vehicle and location of the issue Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) will be used to identify the vehicle and a marker will be placed on it to ensure that it gets stopped. A section 59 notice could be placed on a vehicle doing so provides officers with the power to seize a vehicle if a warning is ignored it:

- Deals with the anti-social use of motor vehicles on public roads or off-road.
- Is issued when vehicles are used to cause distress, alarm, annoyance, or in an anti-social manner.
- Allows police officers and PCSOs to seize vehicles being used in an anti-social manner.
- stays on the vehicle if they get 2 Section 59s their vehicle can be seized.

- If the issue is with drugs, suspicious activity, or known drunk drivers the same process should be followed. With antisocial behaviour if there are a number of ASBs the Police will escalate. Reports will be treated as anonymous to protect the source.

If the village wants an engagement day, the Community Policing Team (CPT) will be happy to oblige at weekends and can also provide posters and other resources both to community groups and schools.

In conclusion Assington is a quiet rural area therefore it is identified as low priority. The Community Police Team is willing and keen to help however, they acknowledge that timely communication within the force remains a problem and ask to be copied into any correspondence with the Police Force.

- Speed survey Cllr Finch to speak to highways

■ Planning:

a. Planning applications:

DC/24/00386 Willow Farm Further Street Assington Sudbury Suffolk CO10 5LD Full Planning Application - Change of use of agricultural land and excavation of a field to create a Private Lake, and to consider the additional application which reduced the lake in size by approximately 50%, No comment from majority of consultees, however heritage feel that it should be reduced further and moved to the west of the site to avoid spoiling the view for Willow Farm. Resolved No comment

■ Licensed Path, Footpaths and APC's Assets

Finger post at the thicks has fallen. Clerk to notify the footpath wardens.

■ Assington Speed watch

Cllr Wallace acknowledges speeding issues in The Street, but problems also exist in Marshall's Green and Barracks road where the speed limit reduces to 30MPH Cllr Hill responded that unfortunately it is not possible for Speed Watch to operate in those locations because there is nowhere along the lanes with a clear 100 metres in either direction, however, it may be possible to request the presence of a Police vehicle.

■ **Date of the next meeting:** Monday 25th November to be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

■ The meeting was closed at 9.30pm

CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS (useful numbers)

If your club or organisation is not listed here and you would like to be included, then please let me know on 01787 210354 or email bronwenstacey@btinternet.com

Allotments Secretary	Karl Debenham <i>alternative: Jenny Cutts</i>	07588 996211 01787 211371
Assington Baby and Toddler Group	Rev Tricia Box	07747 124592
Assington Books, Village Hall (see post office for times)	Michelle Bournier	07954 221773
Assington Farmshop	Maxine Gardiner	01787 211610
Assington Post Office, Village Hall	Mon 1.30-3.30,	Wed 9-12
Boxford CEVC Primary School (office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk)	Head: Emma Lea	01787 210332
Brownies, Boxford	Moiria Grant	01787 211513
Church - Treasurer	Ian Clark	01787 211133
Churchwarden	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
Community Choir	Nettie Osman	07957 394780
County Councillor (james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk)	James Finch	01473 264993
District Councillor (Assington)	Lee Parker	07970 196884
Doctors surgery – Sudbury	Hardwicke House	01787 370011
Doctors surgery – Bures	Bures	01787 227529
Floodline 24/7	SCC Flood Management	0345 606 6171
Footpath Wardens	Paul & Cynthia Hollingsworth	01787 211620
Horticultural Society	Karen Wiles	
Leavenheath Cinema	Marion	01206 263301
Member of Parliament (james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk)	James Cartlidge	020 7219 4875
Mobile Library - Vicary Estate Junction	10th August & 7th September	4.15pm - 4.35pm
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tony@howcroft.net	Tony Howcroft	
hwallace58@gmail.com	Helen Wallace	01787 211162
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Village Hall – Bookings	Karen Wiles	07983 002072
Village Hall - Caretaker	Sean Mills	07547 190948
Village Hall - Charity Secretary		
Womens Institute, Boxford (annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk)	Annie Phillips	01787 211729

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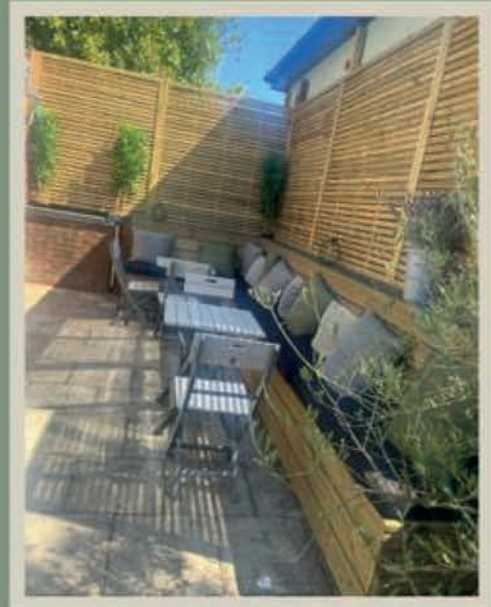


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